

## A B S T R A C T

## A METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROCESSING CONFIDENTIAL CODES

5           A method of processing confidential codes in a  
system having secure functions (180), the method  
comprising the steps consisting in:

- receiving a code;
- verifying a first entitlement for accessing a
- 10 first function (180), and as determined by a first code;
- authorizing access to the first function (180) if  
the first entitlement is recognized; and
- if the first entitlement is not recognized, using  
the code to verify a second entitlement as determined by
- 15 a second code that is different from the first code, to  
trigger at least one second function (170) without  
revealing the fact that the code does not make it  
possible to obtain the first entitlement. Apparatus for  
implementing the method.

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35 Translation of the title and the abstract as they were when originally filed by the  
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38.2, and/or 48.3.

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